

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 259216

LIMDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAM G. BOWDLER

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 259216 ACTION VLADIVOSTOK INFO TOKYO
23 NOV

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 259216

LIMDIS, TOSEC 347

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XM

SUBJECT: POST-QUITO ATMOSPHERE IN INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS

FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

1. THE SECOND PREPARATORY MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP
ON TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISES WOUND UP A FOUR-DAY
SESSION HERE YESTERDAY. THE ATMOSPHERE THROUGHOUT WAS
FRIENDLY AND REASONABLY CONSTRUCTIVE, WITH RECRIMINATIONS
OVER QUITO (OR EVEN MENTION OF THAT MEETING) NOTABLY
ABSENT. VENEZUELA'S DELEGATE, SPEAKING AT THE END OF
THE LAST DAY ON BEHALF OF ALL THE LATINS AND CARIBBEANS,
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PAID US WARM COMPLIMENTS FOR WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS THE

FORTHCOMING AND COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE OF THE U.S.

2. REPORTS FROM THE PLANNING GROUP (LEWIS, EINAUDI AND COMPANY) NOW CONDUCTING TALKS IN A SERIES OF L.A. COUNTRIES REINFORCE THE IMPRESSION THAT FOR THE MOMENT AT LEAST THE LATINS WANT TO AVOID ACRIMONY OVER THE QUITO RESULTS. SIMILARLY, USOAS AS YET FINDS NO POST-QUITO DETERIORATION IN WORKING RELATIONS OR IN THE GENERAL OAS ATMOSPHERE. FINALLY, OUR CHARGE IN SAN JOSE GOT THE CLEAR IMPRESSION FROM FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO, WHO WAS THE MOST BURNED BY QUITO, THAT HE WANTS "TO PUT THE QUITO MEETING BEHIND US AND TO MAINTAIN CLOSE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH USG ON OTHER MULTILATERAL AS WELL AS BILATERAL ISSUES." MY OWN TALKS WITH HIM CONFIRM THIS.

3. THESE GRATIFYING SIGNALS MAY, OF COURSE, ONLY REFLECT A MOMENTARY LULL BEFORE THE CUBA ISSUE AGAIN SHARPENS AS THE BUENOS AIRES MFM DRAWS NEAR. BUT WE THINK THE APPARENT DESIRE TO MAINTAIN HARMONY CONFIRMS AGAIN THAT THE LATINS DO ATTACH REAL IMPORTANCE TO THE NEW DIALOGUE AND THE PROSPECTS IT HOLDS FOR A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE

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